

# The Alliance Herald

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TWICE A WEEK—TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

Official Paper of the City of Alliance

NO. 8

ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1920.

## ST. NICHOLAS AT CHURCHES THIS EVENING

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS TO BE PRESENTED IN ALLIANCE

#### Salvation Army to Distribute Dinners and Other Comforts to the City's Unfortunates.

Practically every Alliance church has arranged for some kind of a Christmas program this evening, and in most of them the entertainment will take the traditional form of a Christmas tree, with a regulation white-whiskered St. Nicholas who will distribute the presents and delight every youngster in the audience. There will be a series of recitations by the Sunday school students, songs and carols and other festivities appropriate to the occasion.

The local Salvation army corps will have charge of the distribution of Christmas dinners and other material comforts. The Elks minstrel receipts were turned over to them for this purpose, and other donations have been made. Incidentally, others will be welcome and there is still time to remember the work of this leading agency for the relief of the distressed and unfortunate.

The Herald has made an attempt to secure complete programs for Christmas eve from the churches of the city. Those we have been able to secure follow:

#### First Presbyterian Church.

Song, "Merry Christmas," primary department.  
Recitation, Marion Sturgeon.  
Song, "Jingle Bells," primary department.

Drill, Pauline Jaqua, Glenn Merik, Marion Sturgeon, Francis McKenzie, Keith Nelson.  
Quartet, "A Christmas Hymn," Mable Sturgeon, Viola Merk, Nellie Sturgeon, Hazel Young.

Drill, Elizabeth Lang, Mildred Kinneut, William Lang.  
Song, "Holy Night," intermediate department boys.

#### Play, "Merry Christmas," with the following cast: Steward, Mark Anderson; herald, Sherman Harris; courtiers, Frank Mounts and Wayne Threlkeld; King Christmas, Sterling Harris; Queen Christmas, Dorothy Reynolds; Bells, Gladys Sturgeon; Light, Rowland Threlkeld; Decorations, Mariellen Beagle; Snow, Margaret Schill Gifts, Margaret Dow and Edward Knight; Feast, Oliver Overman; Christmas Tree, Jay Cantlin; Santa Claus; Spirit of Love, Miriam Harris.

#### Chorus, Ruth Stanton, Flora Spencer, Ruth Ale, Phyllis Thompson.

#### Pianist, Mary Woolis.

The program will be put on under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Prince, who have had charge of training the children for the entertainment. Mr. Prince is superintendent of the Sunday school.

The Salvation army Christmas tree for the children will be held on next Tuesday evening. This late date was made necessary in order to secure a Christmas tree from one of the other churches, and in order not to conflict with other festivities.

#### First Christian Church.

Song by congregation, No. 112.  
Invocation, Rev. S. J. Epler.  
Girls' dialog, "Joy to the World," class.

Recitation, Mary Ellen Gentry.  
Recitation, Howard West.

Class piece, "Holly Wreaths," primary pupils.

Recitation, Dorothy Churchill.

Recitation, "Xmas Pie," Paul Boyard Jones.

Recitation, "Whispered in Dreams," Hazel Ward.

Song, "Waiting for Santy," class.

Recitation, "The Child and Her Doll," Edna Tracy.

Recitation, Victor Holmes.

Boys' drill, "Merry Christmas," Junior boys.

Recitation, "Molly's Stocking," George Reed.

Recitation, Linville Lyle.

Song, Marguerite Vanderlass.

Song, "Links of Brotherhood," third primary boys.

Recitation, Clemand Routh.

Recitation, Leonard Hunsaker.

Piano duet, Irene Epler and Beatrice Fosdick.

Recitation, Loren Ward.

Recitation, Lucille Young.

Recitation, "A Pair of Stockings," Johnny Holmes.

Dialog, "Old Santa," Bobby and Buddy Hershman and Paul Boyard Jones.

Class piece, "Christmas Candles," Recitation, Winston Churchill.

Recitation, Myrtle Williams.

Class piece, "Crown Him," primary department.

Recitation, Cleo Routh.

Chorus, "That Wondrous Night," class.

Recitation, Freddie Hunsaker.

Recitation, Adolph Young.

Recitation, Phillip Harris.

Drill, "Christmas Star," girls.

Recitation, "A Christmas Letter," Martha Hoppes.

Recitation, Stephen Epler.

Dialog, "Gifts for the King," four boys.

Recitation, Mildred Dole.

Recitation, Mae Campbell.

Song, "Glad Tidings."

Recitation, Marion Harris.

Reading, Frances Fletcher.

Recitation, "Looking for Santa," little girls with candles.

Pantomime, "Silent Night, Holy Night."

Arrival of Santa, and distribution of treat.

#### First Methodist Church

Psalm, "Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem."

Invocation, pastor.

"Merry Christmas," primary girls.

"Christmas Spirit," Bernice Van Kirk.

"The White Gift," Mrs. A. P. Brown.

"Christmas Carol," Ruth Hopkins.

"Crowning of the King," True Blues.

"A Christmas Wish," Chas. O'Bannon.

Pantomime, "Lead, Kindly Light," Tina Herbert, Helen Fenning, Maggie Marshall.

"A Good Mother," Dorothy Wells.

"There's a Song in the Air," primary department.

"Danny's Christmas Gift," Josephine Acheson.

"A Christmas Carol," Betty Harper.

Drill, "Boosters and Hustlers," cast of characters: Wise Men: Messrs. Walker, Lucas and Spacht; madonna, Mrs. M. C. Smith; soloist, Miss Verna Dow; angels.

"Good Night," Elizabeth Barker.

## CROOKS TRY CONFIDENCE GAME HERE

### AND PICK ON A MINISTER AS THEIR VICTIM

#### Two Smooth Gentlemen Attempt to Borrow Money on Their Note, But Are Out of Luck

A couple of smooth crooks, one of them a distinguished looking gentleman with hair tinged with gray, somewhere in the neighborhood of forty-five years of age, the other a mere youth of twenty, attempted to work a new style confidence game in Alliance last Saturday but didn't meet with any luck. They didn't even meet with encouragement, and that same evening "blew" the city no wealthier than when they arrived.

Last Saturday evening, when the Rev. A. J. Kearns was in his study putting the finishing touches on the Sunday morning sermon, the two gentlemen knocked at his door and were admitted. They told a tale of misfortune. Their pocketbooks had been lost—or mislaid—and they wanted to borrow a little money to get back to their homes in Butte, Mont. To show that they were open and above-board, they offered to give their promissory note for whatever money the preacher could spare.

Mr. Kearns, somehow, was suspicious, despite their familiarity with Presbyterian names and landmarks in the Montana town. He offered them seventy-five cents wherewith to obtain supper, but this offer was indignantly scorned. "We're not beggars," the older of the two gentlemen exclaimed with some bitterness and a trifle heatedly. "We will repay every cent you advance us." And so, when they saw the jig was up, they took their departure.

Mr. Kearns later decided that the two men would bear watching, and so wandered down to the police station, where Officer Stillwell, searching through the police records, saw a description of the men and a warning that they were in the business of handing out their promissory notes as souvenirs. They were kept under surveillance during their stay in the city, which was comparatively brief, and the next train bore them afar, to greener fields.

When the pair came downtown, they were joined by a third man, who may have been the master mind, or a sponge, or else he had been working the game on his own hook. No further attempts were reported to the police.

Messrs. Blain Grable, Polly Butler and Golden Dorn, of Sidney, will be in town visiting friends the first of next week. They expect to play for a dance here on Monday, December 27.

## Merry Christmas

For the second time, it is our privilege to extend to friends of The Herald the merriest of greetings and the sincerest of best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. We're in a peculiar appropriate frame of mind for it, as we are planning to spend Christmas at home for the first time in three years. We wish for you as pleasant a time as we will have on this happy Christmas day.

Christmas is a time for nothing but happiness, and each of us will spend it in a way that most appeals to him. Some will find their pleasure in feasting and making merry, and on this day these things are part and parcel of the occasion. Others will renew friendships with the living and recall the memory of the dead. It is a day of homecoming, of kindly thoughts, of friendly sentiments.

Life has been very pleasant in Alliance, and to every friend who has helped to make it so, The Herald wishes to extend kind remembrances and all good wishes for a happy Christmas and a bright, peaceful and prosperous New Year.

## HOLD AUTOPSY OVER A FORMER ALLIANCE MAN

### DR. W. S. BELLWOOD DIES AT ABINGDON, ILL.

Analysis Made of Heart and Stomach to Determine If Death Natural or Self-Inflicted

Dr. W. S. Bellwood of Abingdon, Ill., at one time in partnership with his uncle, Dr. H. H. Bellwood, in this city, and later one of the most prominent physicians of the Illinois city, was found dead in bed in his room over the Abingdon theater at 11:30 a. m. December 14. Dr. Bellwood's father, James Bellwood, was for many years a prominent rancher near Angora. For nearly ten years, the deceased was a practitioner in this city, and there are a number of residents who were well acquainted with him.

The body was found when a woman, who takes care of the doctor's living quarters and offices, which are connected, went to clean the rooms and found the door of the bedroom locked. She called in help and the door was forced. The doctor was found to be lying in bed composed as in sleep. He was undressed and well covered up with the bed clothes.

In the opinion of Dr. Rowe, who was called in at once upon the discovery of the body, the doctor had been dead for some hours, when he saw the body.

There is nothing, either in the circumstances surrounding the death or the doctor's affairs to indicate either death by violence or from self-inflicted causes. The most likely theory is that death came from natural causes and during sleep.

Dr. Bellwood, who had been living alone while his wife and daughter Irene were making their home in Galesburg, where the daughter is a student in Knox college, was born on March 21, 1866, in Knox county near Abingdon. In his youth he taught school and later attended Hedding college. He graduated from Rush Medical college in 1895 and took up the practice of medicine in Alliance, Neb. He returned to Abingdon and entered practice in 1904, and has remained in this city since that time.

On June 30, 1897, he was married to Miss Edna Kelly Shaffer of Fairfield, Ia. To this union was born one child, the daughter now a student in Knox college.

Dr. Bellwood was a member of the Knox county medical society, the Illinois medical society and the American medical association. He was a member of the Episcopal church and the Abingdon lodge No. 185, A. F. & A. M.

## DEFECTIVE FLUE CAUSES EARLY MORNING FIRE

A fire at 1024 Box Butte about 9:00 o'clock this morning caused about \$500.00 damage to the Hagerty estate, a residence occupied by Jim Staley. Defective flue is given as the cause. The house is badly gutted. Furniture was all gotten out of the rooms. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

Miss Bessie Harsh left yesterday for her home in Beatrice to spend the holidays.

## OUTLOOK FOR POTATOES IS LOOKING UP

### BETTER PRICES ARE EXPECTED AFTER FIRST OF YEAR

Main Trouble With Nebraska Sales Still the Grading Question—State Grades Don't Stand Up

The potato market, which has been slowing down the past two weeks, is on its usual holiday vacation. Prices have been at a standstill for several days, and with the Christmas season at hand, very few cars are moving. Once in a while some jobber feels the need for spuds sufficiently to make a bid that interests the potato exchange, but as a rule, jobbers have a six weeks' supply on hand and it will be along toward the middle of January or first of February before sales get back to normal.

Sales during the entire season have been more or less slow. The Nebraska exchange completed its organization just a few weeks before the shipping season began, and there has been some little difficulty in securing a resident manager who is able to give his entire time to developing the shipping. Altogether there have been less than two hundred cars shipped through the exchange so far, and this is far below what might have been handled. During the month of November alone, nearly twice this number could have been sold.

However, on the potatoes that have been sold, the exchange has been able to realize the growers a considerable profit, in most instances above the prices paid by buyers at the trackside. Most of the members of the exchange are enthusiastic over the possibilities in the plan, and when the market gets back to normal at the beginning of the new year, shipments are expected to increase rapidly. There are hundreds of cars of potatoes in this section that will be sold before spring.

The growers, as a rule, are enthusiastic over the sales organization that is handling the selling of their crops. This part of the work is under the control of the North American Fruit exchange, which has branches in all parts of the country, and by advance wire reports it is possible to fairly accurately forecast the market in any given section on any day. Thus, when cars are rolling, when the information comes in that the market at any particular point is shot to pieces temporarily, the cars are diverted to other markets where the supplies are lighter and where prices have been maintained.

There has been a sufficient amount of demonstration of the old selling methods throughout the country to convince the growers that they have not been getting anything like the percentage of the consumers' dollar that they should get, and up to the present the service of the North American Fruit exchange, according to G. E. Prater, sales manager of the Minnesota potato exchange, the first organization of this kind in the field and the leader, prosperous to date, has been the most successful in solving this condition. In fact, Mr. Prater says, it is the only organization operating today to any great extent which does not take advantage of its market information and buy previous to the market advance and then let the grow-

ers stand the market decline.

One potato grower, who has had an opportunity to watch the Nebraska exchange during the few months of its existence, has the following to say:

"In the potato exchange work this year the market reports show that we have been getting more than Colorado and Minnesota on an average and have been close to the top of the market all the time. This is the first time that this has been true and the result of the potatoes shipped directly through the exchange has been 20 to 40 cents per hundredweight more than track side buyers were offering on an average. Yet the track buyer was forced higher than he wanted to go, as many of them who sold to the buyer quoted the exchange prices, and the buyer had to pay. The result in dollars and cents will reflect on at least seventy-five cars in my county alone, at least an average of 30 cents per hundredweight, or \$8,100, and what is more, results will continue for the future. What is still better, prices over the entire state are affected."

To date, the chief difficulty that has been experienced by the exchange and the sales force is in the improper grading of cars. The state inspectors have interpreted the rules differently than the national inspectors, and while their grades are accepted in Nebraska without question, when the cars are sent to markets outside the state, there is all sorts of trouble experienced in regard to the grading. In the case of dozens of cars, the grading done by the state has not been sufficiently close. Such defects as second growth, growth cracks, scab and worm-eaten stock in excessive amounts has caused federal inspectors to reduce the grading. The exchange has been laboring with the state bureau ever since it began operations in order to secure a stiffening up of the grading requirements and while conditions now are better than at the beginning of the sales season, there is still room for improvement.

## ALLIANCE HELD IN THE GRIP OF A COLD WAVE

### TEMPERATURE RANGING NEAR THE ZERO MARK.

#### Train Service from the West Slowed Down, But No Trouble Encountered with Drifts.

Western Nebraska has been in the grip of a snowstorm and cold wave for the past five days, the storm extending over most of Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska. For the first two days of the storm, the snow was accompanied by a high wind, with a blizzard threatening, but the third day the wind died down and the weather grew colder. Temperatures in Alliance have been as low as 15 or 18 below zero at night.

The trains have been running, although most of them from the west have been from two to five hours late. During the heavy snow and high wind, passenger trains were run double-headed out of this city, in order to avoid the possibility of a repetition of last year's experience, when one passenger train was stuck in the drifts near this city for over forty-eight hours.

Ranchers had plenty of warning of the approaching storm, and the live stock losses are expected to be light. Most of the ranchers are feeding stock. There is an abundance of hay, and but little trouble is expected.

## FUNERAL SERVICES FOR WILLIAM CARL HARGARTEN

Funeral services for William Carl Hargarten, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hargarten, were held from the Catholic church Thursday morning at 9:30 o'clock, Rev. Father Manning officiating. The little lad was taken ill a week ago with appendicitis, an operation was performed last Saturday, and the shock proved too great. He died Tuesday afternoon.

Among those from out of the city who attended the funeral were Mrs. William Hartman of Lincoln; Mrs. Jerry Hoffman of Havelock, William Kranz and J. J. Kranz of Merna.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Mintzer are leaving today for Casper, Wyo., to visit over Christmas with the family of R. V. Copsey. Mrs. Mintzer will remain for a week during the holidays but George will return immediately after Christmas.

Mr. Glass, who has been homesteading near Douglas, Wyo., was an Alliance visitor yesterday at the home of his brother, W. M. Glass. He left for Hyannis this morning.

## FUNERAL FOR DR. HERSHMAN HELD THURSDAY

### FORMER PHYSICIAN BURIED IN ALLIANCE CEMETERY

#### Impressive Services Held at the Masonic Temple in Charge of Lodge Brothers.

Impressive funeral services for Dr. Charles E. Hershman, prominent Alliance physician who passed away suddenly Monday afternoon from an apoplectic stroke, were held Thursday afternoon from the Masonic Temple, that order having charge of the ceremonies.

Members of the order met at the temple at 1:30 p. m. and marched to the late residence, forming an escort of honor for the casket. Three fellow physicians and three friends of the deceased were pall bearers: Dr. Minor Morris, Dr. C. E. Slagle, Dr. H. A. Copsey, Jack Hawes, S. W. Thompson and S. W. Wright.

The Masonic temple was filled with friends of Dr. Hershman who had come to pay tribute to his memory. The floral offerings were profuse and beautiful. The impressive Masonic ceremonies were in charge of Worshipful Master P. I. Beach, and the responses were made by Senior Warden O. F. Tracy and Junior Warden Clifford Sward. Earl Meyer acted as marshal.

Rev. Stephen J. Epler delivered the funeral address which brought comfort to the sorrowing relatives. A special choir, composed of Mrs. Sam Tillot, and Mrs. Bert Duncan and Mr. Jim Irwin and Mr. Welsh sang, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," "Goodnight," and the Masonic Funeral Ode. Miss Spacht accompanied on the piano.

Dr. Hershman was born January 12, 1885, at Teft, Ind. He leaves a widow and two small sons, Robert and Paul aged five and three years, respectively, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Hershman, living at Teft, Ind., two brothers, Paul, living at Teft, Ind. and Fred O. Hershman, of Alliance, two sisters, Mrs. B. M. Scott of this city and Mrs. G. P. Tipword, of Bridgeport, Ill.

Dr. Hershman has practiced medicine in Alliance since 1910, first coming here as medical examiner for the Burlington. He was a graduate of the Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1908, and was president of the Guardian State Bank. He was a Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner of Tangier Temple, Omaha. Burial was made in Greenwood cemetery.

## "FORBIDDEN TRAILS" AT THE IMPERIAL TONIGHT

Buck Jones in "Forbidden Trails" is the feature at the Imperial tonight. Buck takes the part of "Squint" Taylor, owner of a ranch, received a unique bequest from his old friend Larry Harlan, when he is asked to marry Larry's daughter. He finds, when he goes to get the girl, that others have the same idea. It's a smashing western story, full of thrills and excitement, and just the sort of a play to take the kid's minds off of Christmas.

The Christmas day program is Nazimova in "The Heart of a Child." The story is the life romance of a Cockney girl from the tenements of Limehouse, portrayed as only Nazimova can do it. Sally was dancing in the street to the music of a hand organ when someone shouted to her "Wot a lark, Sa! Yer father's bashed yer mother's 'ead in."

Dorothy Dalton in "The Market of Souls" is the Sunday bill. It's a characteristic Dorothy Dalton play, and that's sufficient recommendation.

## HOME TALENT MOVIE DRAWS BIG CROWDS TO IMPERIAL

"She Wouldn't Change Her Sweetheart," a motion picture with home talent actors and actresses, was the attraction at the Imperial yesterday, and drew three capacity houses. The audience apparently appreciated, seeing the home boys and girls in action, judging from the applause and the comments.

Miss Betty Harsh took the part of the heroine, Wade Grassman as the hero and Joe Williams as the villain in the plot. Some of the scenes were particularly realistic. The plot of the production was a trifle sketchy, and the thread of it was lost in visits to various stores in the city, but there was considerable action at times and the audience was not disappointed.

Harry Marsh of Scottbluff is coming to Alliance for the holidays.